

## **NEW HAMPSHIRE FIRE STANDARDS & TRAINING COMMISSION**

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### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

**May 15, 2008**

*(Approved June 5, 2008)*

Members Present: Stephen Carrier, Michael Williams, Brad Simpkins, Edward Murdough, David Duquette, Richard Mason, Al Burbank, William Degnan, Joseph Butts, Karen Schlitzer, Mark Tetreault and Gary Stenhouse.

Members Absent: Earl Sweeney, Sue Prentiss, John Hoglund, Kevin Pratt and Frank Fraitzl.

Others Present: *Division of Fire Standards & Training and Emergency Medical Services*—Dennis Rosolen, Bureau Chief; Jeffrey Phillips, Bureau Chief; Denice McAdoo, Recording Secretary, and Marta Modigliani, Attorney for Dept. of Safety. There were no members of the public present.

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

**Item 1. Call to Order.** The meeting of the New Hampshire Fire Standards & Training Commission was called to order by Chair Duquette at 10:07 a.m. on Thursday, May 15, 2008 at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy, 98 Smokey Bear Blvd, Concord, NH.

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Attorney Modigliani.

The public hearing to readopt and amend the rules was opened by Marta Modigliani, Esq. (attorney, Dept. of Safety). She gave a brief summary of the purpose of the public hearing and since there were no members of the public present, the Commission commenced with regular business.

Director Mason said that the Chief of Moultonboro FD had a question regarding a proposed rule change. The Director said he then e-mailed the Chief about the intention of this rule and told the Chief he could submit his

question in person or in writing. He received an e-mail from Chief Bengtson thanking him, and has heard nothing else.

Commissioner Stenhouse asked what the request was made by Chief Bengtson of the Moultonborough Fire Department. Director Mason explained that the Moultonborough Fire Department uses Call Personnel to fill positions daily during the summer months. By changing the definition of Full-time Career Fire Personnel in Part Fire 101-17 would that mean his personnel would be classified as Full-time and need the requisite training. Director Mason explained to the chief that someone would need to work an average of 30 hours per week for the 52 weeks in a year to be in that category. The chief was acceptable of that reply.

Marta said she has not received any comments on the proposed rule changes from the Division of Administrative Rules as yet. They do not anticipate having any comments until next week.

## **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Item 1. Motion** was made by Commissioner Murdough, seconded by Commissioner Tetreault, to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2008 Commission meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

## **III. CHAIR'S REMARKS**

Chair Duquette marks his 25<sup>th</sup> year in fire service and remarked that he and Commissioner Butts were in the same Recruit School together. Congratulations Duke and Joe!!

## **IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Item 1. Emergency Medical Services.** Chief Prentiss was not in attendance. No report was submitted.

**Item 2. Fire Marshal's Office.** Fire Marshal Degnan gave his report. No written copy was available.

**Item 3. Forest Protection Bureau.** Commissioner Simpkins submitted the following report:

### **Forest Protection Bureau Report for May 15, 2008**

- In-state fires statistics YTD: 144 fires; 92 acres; 3 injuries; largest fire was 39 acres

- Out-of-state activity YTD: two single resources sent out so far, a Division Supervisor to Virginia and a Public Information Officer to North Carolina
- One of the four Forest Ranger vacancies has been filled. Matthew Apgar started as the new ranger in the southwestern part of the state on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are currently conducting a background check on a candidate for the remaining position to be filled, which is northern Coos County. The other two ranger vacancies will remain unfilled at this time.
- The towers are being staffed, although four of them are only being staffed on Class 3 and higher fire danger days.
- The Bureau has had to redistrict the state to cover the two vacancies, so the new map showing which ranger is covering which towns is on our website at [www.nhdfi.org](http://www.nhdfi.org).
- Warden/Deputy training this spring has been very successful, with approximately 500 attendees.
- The Bureau is currently conducting Pack Tests and safety refreshers across the state for firefighters who wish to be available for an out-of-state assignment. The rookie class for new wildland firefighters will be on June 21<sup>st</sup> at the Tilton-Northfield Fire Department.
- Several pieces of legislation pertaining to the Forest Fire Service made their way through the House and Senate. Bills included allowing state employees to go on out-of-state fire assignments without having to use leave time, putting the ability to use 16 and 17 year olds on brush fires into law, and forming a study committee to determine the feasibility of erecting a new fire tower atop Copple Crown Mountain in Brookfield.
- Currently working with the Civil Air Patrol to perform aerial detection of brush and forest fires.

**Item 4. Curriculum Review.** Curriculum Status Report by Chief Rosolen is in each Commission member's packet and is as follows:

CURRICULUM STATUS REPORT  
May15, 2008

- (a) Driver/Operator:
- (1) Pumps:
  - (2) Aerial Apparatus:

Still waiting to hear from the committee. No other programs will be approved at this point.

- (3) All Vehicle:  
The program is near ready to run, a TtT scheduled for May.

(b) **Hazardous Materials:**

- Captain Pragoff and Jeff Allison are reviewing the standard now and have formed a visiting committee for the new standard and curriculum.

- (1) Operations:
- (2) Technician:

(c) **Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting:**

(d) **NFPA 1030 Series:**

- (1) NFPA 1031, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspectors and Plan Examiners: Inspector II is now Pro-Board accredited. A second pilot is planned for this spring.
- (2) NFPA 1033, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator is in the planning stage for delivery. A planning meeting is to take place in the near future.
- (3) NFPA 1035, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Public Fire and Life Safety Educator: Will probably follow the 1033 standard.

(e) **Rescue Series:**

- (1) Structural Collapse:
- (2) Confined Space: A class is scheduled for the spring.
- (3) Technical Rope Rescue:  
An Operational level of rope rescue TtT has been accomplished and  
This program is ready to be offered this month. A Rope Rescue Technician class is scheduled for early September. The first Operations class went well.
- (4) Trench Rescue:  
A Trench Rescue class is scheduled for fall.
- (5) Ice Rescue – 2 classes were scheduled this winter and will need to be reviewed before any are offered next winter (09).

(f) **NFPA 1001 Firefighter I and Firefighter II:**

A Visiting committee has been formed and have had a meeting thus far to review the standard and

Resources available. Representatives from Delmar and Jones and Bartlett presented their curriculum. The next step is to compare and choose either one of these or IFSTA.

- (g) NFPA 1021 Fire Officer:  
The Spring class went well.
- (h) NFPA 1041 Instructor:  
An Instructor I course is scheduled for May in the seacoast region.
- (j) NFPA 1051 Wildland Firefighter:  
Doing well at this point.
- (k) C2F2:  
Currently going on for recruit school. The skills evaluation portion looks good for now but will need to see what happens with the June class before we can more accurately assess them.
- (l) ICS/NIMS:  
Starting to regionalize these programs for more effective and economical delivery. An ICS 300/400 program was just completed that included a TtT. We are now able to offer these classes around the State.

#### **Pro-Board Certifications, Standards and Year**

**NFPA 1001, Firefighter I, 2008**  
**NFPA 1001, Firefighter II, 2008**  
**NFPA 1002, Driver Operator Pump & Aerial, 2003**  
**NFPA 1021, Fire Officer I&II, III&IV, 2003**  
**NFPA 1041, Fire Service Instructor I, II, III, 2007**  
**NFPA 1031, Fire Inspector I, 2003 and soon Inspector II**  
**NFPA 1003, Airport Firefighter, 2005**  
**NFPA 472, Hazardous Materials Operations, 2008**  
**NFPA 472, Hazardous Materials Technician, 2008**  
**NFPA 1006, Rescue series not yet accredited, 2003**  
**NFPA 1051, Wildland Firefighter, 2006**

#### **V. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR**

**Item 1. Director's Report #114.** The Director's Report #114 for May 15, 2008 was reviewed by Director Mason and was as follows:

DIRECTOR'S REPORT #114  
MAY 15, 2008

I hope everyone had a great spring! Once the snow started melting it did so fast, but not fast enough to cause flooding. I thought we would have snow banks until Independence Day!

1. Fire Rescue New England

The Fire Rescue New England Conference will be in Springfield, MA on June 19-22, 2008. As in the past several years, we will have the Fire Academy and EMS booth. We also handle all the audio-visual needs for the event.

2. Explorer Academy

We will once again, for the 12<sup>th</sup> time, host the Fire Training Explorers Academy for the week of June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The first order of business will be taking a bus to the Big E in Springfield for the Fire Rescue Expo. The remainder of the week the 60 attendees will work toward FFI certification. A cadet attending for 3 years can attain FFIA.

3. Camp Fully Involved

August 3-9, 2008 we will once again host Camp Fully Involved which is similar to the Explorer Academy, however it is for girls only and is not working towards certification, rather it is an awareness type program. We work with the Fire Instructors and Officers Association of NH who sponsor the program and is run by Nashua Fire Fighter Jess Wyman.

4. Hazardous Materials Teams – Funding

At the March Commission meeting there was a vote to support the house bill trying to establish a funding stream for Hazardous Materials Teams. I did not submit this letter as the bill text changed and uses the Fire Training and EMS fund, which could be an issue for our operational funds. Therefore, I opted to wait until the May meeting to submit any communication.

5. FEMA Sponsored Grants – 2007

Assistance to Fire Fighter Grant –  
46 NH fire departments with a total of \$3,219,974

Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants (SAFER)  
4 NH fire departments with a total of \$1,475,950

6. Recruit School 2008

We started our Recruit School this year in March with Fire Fighter I. This past week we completed Fire Fighter II with C2F2 starting this past Monday. Graduation will be at 18:30 on Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> if you are interested in attending.

## 7. June 5<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting

The public session will be June 5<sup>th</sup> with the NH House of Representatives, Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee. The Commission meeting will be at 15:00, dinner at 17:30, and then the public session at 19:00.

Also, Director Mason presented two extension requests. One from North Hampton Fire Dept. and the other from Salem Fire Dept. A motion was made by Commissioner Butts to grant the extension from North Hampton for a period of one year. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Carrier. The extension from Salem FD was tabled until the June Commission meeting because of errors in the letter.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

Nothing to report.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Duquette asked that everyone get feedback from their constituents regarding making C2F2 a *hiring requirement* rather than giving the candidate one year from date of hire to complete. Commission members will then discuss feedback at June commission meeting.

At 11:20 the public hearing was closed by Attorney Modigliani. There was no one from the public sector present. It was decided to wait until the June Commission meeting to vote to readopt the rules as presented. The deadline is the first Friday of June.

## **VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Happy Birthday to Marta!!!

Commissioner Simpkins mentioned that Al Grimes, formerly of Durham FD, is gravely ill and resides in Madbury now. He and his wife welcome visitors during this difficult time. If anyone would like to visit, please do so.

Fire Marshal Degnan wanted to let everyone know that Concord FD has a new chief, Daniel Andrus. Chief Andrus is from Salt Lake City, Utah. We wish him much success!

Director Mason reminded everyone that it is not too soon to start considering recipients for the Academy Awards in November. He suggested that considerations be submitted at the June Commission meeting. He asked that the Commission recognize the Lambert brothers for their contributions to the fire service.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

***Motion*** was made by Commissioner Burbank, seconded by Vice-Chair Carrier, to adjourn at 11:30 a.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Mason, Director

Items distributed at meeting:

1. Agenda 05/15/2008
2. Minutes of Meeting – 03/06/08 – Not Approved
3. Curriculum Status Report 05/15/08
4. Forest Protection Bureau Report 05/15/2008
5. Director's Report #114 – 05/15/2008